



LINCOLN CHAFEE

U.S. SENATOR

RHODE ISLAND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, October 17, 2003

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STATEMENT FROM SENATOR LINCOLN CHAFEE ON CHEMICAL SAFETY

WASHINGTON, DC – In a statement released today, U.S. Senator sought to clear up confusion about chemical legislation pending in the United States Senate:

“As a member of the Environment and Public Works Committee of the United States Senate I have worked diligently to bring together the supporters of two widely divergent bills that deal with chemical safety. In an atmosphere of fervent partisan division, where the potential for nothing to be accomplished strongly exists, I have been working with members of both parties, environmentalists, including USPIRG and the Natural Resources Defense Council, and other concerned parties to draft compromise legislation that addresses their concerns.

Next week, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will consider long overdue legislation addressing security at chemical facilities across the country. I strongly believe that chemical facilities should reduce the threats at their sites, so that the public will be safer. To this end, I have secured inclusion of provisions that will address the implementation of inherently safer technologies. There is no provision in current law that requires companies to take these steps and I believe that inclusion of these provisions represents a bold step toward protection of our communities.”